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DA 04-2440
July 30, 2004

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU EXTENDS COMMENT CYCLE ON QWEST'S PETITION FOR FORBEARANCE IN THE OMAHA METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

WC Docket No. 04-223

Revised Comment Deadline: August 24, 2004
Revised Reply Comment Deadline: September 23, 2004

On June 25, 2004, the Wireline Competition Bureau issued a public notice indicating that initial comments regarding Qwest's Petition for Forbearance in the Omaha Metropolitan Statistical Area (WC Docket No. 04-223) would be due on or before August 10, 2004, and that reply comments would be due on or before September 9, 2004.¹

On July 29, 2004, CompTel/ASCENT ("CompTel") filed a motion to extend the comment and reply comment deadlines in this docket to August 24, 2004, and September 23, 2004, respectively.² CompTel explains that Qwest filed its petition with critical information redacted and subject to a request for confidential treatment.³ CompTel states that the process for obtaining access to the redacted contents of Qwest's petition has significantly delayed parties' access to the full contents, which are critical to the comment preparation.⁴ CompTel further argues that the brief extension requested would not prejudice any party to the proceeding.⁵

It is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time are not routinely granted.⁶ In this case, however, the Bureau finds that CompTel has shown good cause for an extension of the comment and reply comment deadlines in this proceeding. In light of the need to analyze fully

¹ See Public Notice, "Pleading Cycle Established for Comments on Qwest's Petition for Forbearance in the Omaha Metropolitan Statistical Area," DA 04-1869 (rel. June 25, 2004).

² See CompTel/ASCENT's Motion for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 04-223 (filed July 29, 2004).

³ *Id.* at 2.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a).

the confidential portions of Qwest's petition, we grant a limited extension so that parties may file comments in this docket on or before **August 24, 2004**, and reply comments on or before **September 23, 2004**.

For further information regarding these proceedings contact Pamela Arluk, pamela.arluk@fcc.gov, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-1471.

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